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April 15, 2004

TO: Examiner Tung (TC1600)

GROUP: 1637

FAX NUMBER: 703-872-9307

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: RU-0124

SERIAL NO.: 09/869,004

FILED: January 24, 2002

NUMBER OF PAGES: 19

MESSAGE: Attached please find Combined Amendment & Petition for Extension of Time Transmittal Letter with authorization to charge deposit account #50-1619 in the amount of \$210.00 for extension of time filing fees; Reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 mailed November 17, 2003 and Certificate of Transmission by Facsimile.

Kathleen A. Tyrrell, Registration No. 38,350

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

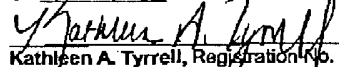
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Attorney Docket No.: RU-0124
Inventors: Breslauer et al.
Serial No.: 09/869,004
Filing Date: January 24, 2002
Examiner: Tung, Joyce
Group Art Unit: 1637
Title: Methods and Kits for Screening Nucleic
Acid Duplex Stability

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On April 15, 2004


Kathleen A. Tyrrell, Registration No. 38,350

U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

This is a reply to the Office Action mailed November 17,
2003 setting a three (3) month statutory period for response. A
Petition for a two (2) month extension of time and the requisite
fee are provided herewith. Please enter the following remarks
and amendments into the record.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of
claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Attorney Docket No.: RU-0124
Inventors: Breslauer et al.
Serial No.: 09/869,004
Filing Date: January 24, 2002
Page 2

Remarks begin on page 12.